

Position: Stewardship and Outreach Assistant**Introduction**

This is an AmeriCorps/Washington Service Corps (WSC) position stationed at the Puget Sound Partnership in Tacoma, Washington. This is a volunteer opportunity with a living stipend of \$1,155/month plus additional benefits. (See below). WSC members must serve 10.5 months and earn a minimum of 1,700 service hours. For more information about the AmeriCorps/Washington Service Corps program, please go to the organizational website:

<http://www.esd.wa.gov/washingtonservicecorps/wsc-individual-placement-program.php>.

Start

September 1, 2014. This is a full-time position (40 hours per week) through July 15, 2015.

Qualifications

As a minimum, the following criteria required by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) must be met:

- U.S. Citizen (must submit proof of citizenship, per CNCS regulation)
- Between the ages of 18-25 years of age at the time of hire
- High School diploma or an equivalency (or must agree to obtain diploma or equivalent prior to using AmeriCorps Education Award)
- Pass criminal background check
- Not be listed on the National Sex Offender Registry

The Partnership is seeking an independent worker who is an articulate, self-motivated leader, and is people and team-oriented. The WSC member must have good communication skills and be able to work both independently and part of a team. The WSC member must be able to multi-task and have good time-management skills. Basic Microsoft Office skills (e.g., Word, Excel, Outlook) are required. Excellent writing and speaking abilities are a must. It is strongly recommended that candidates have their own transportation.

The ideal candidate is a college graduate or near-graduate, with a background in natural resources, environmental science, ecology, environmental education and/or social science that possesses an interest in on-the-job experience. He/she will possess a minimum of one year of paid or volunteer experience in at least one of the following areas: environmental education or outreach, natural resource management or research, social marketing, landowner outreach or habitat restoration.

Member must attend WSC member training conference (overnight) held in October 2014.

Compensation

- \$1,155 per month living stipend
- \$5,645 SCHOLARSHIP after completing a minimum of 1,700 hours of service that may be applied to student loans or college tuition
- INTEREST DEFERMENT on qualifying existing student loans
- MEDICAL INSURANCE
- Childcare assistance and food stamps may be available if income eligible
- On-the-job training in social strategies for ecosystem recovery, public engagement, social science, and exposure to both the technical and political process of Puget Sound recovery
- Puget Sound Partnership reimburses for work related mileage and travel expenses

Job Description

This is a full time (40 hours per week) position that will typically involve a Monday – Friday work schedule, but will require occasional weekend and evening work.

This AmeriCorps position supports the Puget Sound Action Agenda's public engagement strategies to foster broad-scale actions that address polluted water, degraded habitat and imperiled species. Specifically, the position will provide support to the ECO Net (Education, Communication and Outreach Network), a Puget Sound-wide network of professionals that work directly with the public to provide environmental education and outreach programming. The network includes environmental learning centers, aquariums, conservation and environmental organizations, conservation districts, schools, government and tribal entities, and many others. By working with and through the ECO Net, this position will increase the region-wide capacity to implement effective strategies and programs, increase consistency and coverage, share knowledge and resources, and expand partnerships. For more information on the ECO Net, see: <http://www.psp.wa.gov/econet.php>

This project will also support the Puget Sound Starts Here campaign, an effort outlined in the Action Agenda to increase public awareness of, and local identify with, Puget Sound. The campaign is currently being implemented throughout the twelve-county Puget Sound region, and localized via use by ECO Net and STORM (a coalition of over 60 local jurisdictions with storm water permits). Through Puget Sound Starts Here, partner organizations work collaboratively to deliver relevant, vetted, and coordinated educational messages to the region's 4.3 million residents. For more information on Puget Sound Starts Here, see: www.pugetsoundstartshere.org

During their term of service, the Stewardship and Outreach Assistant will perform the following tasks:

- Coordinate opportunities for ECO Net members to connect with under-served audiences in their communities, including groups who are typically considered outside of the "environmental" realm such as service groups, veterans, businesses, cultural groups and others.

- Coordinate professional development opportunities for ECO Net members, to support ECO Net members' ability to design and implement effective environmental education and behavior change programs. Tasks will include assessing needs, scheduling, coordinating ECO Net participation, and evaluation.
- Coordinate post-training "communities of practice" for ECO Net members. These groups are where ECO Net members can collaborate, share successes and lessons learned, and in general provide support for each other in practicing and mastering the knowledge and skills on which the trainings focused.
- Create tools and outreach content to support and expand the regional Puget Sound Starts Here outreach campaign. Resources created may include articles, fact sheets, brochures, photo essays, infographics and powerpoint presentations.
- Provide information and technical support for local organizations working toward the health of Puget Sound.

The Puget Sound Partnership is committed to ensuring that the WSC member leaves this program with a set of skills and experiences useful for future job opportunities. We anticipate that the WSC member will gain a basic understanding of the role public involvement in ecosystem recovery; how science, politics and community interests merge; and how different agencies and organizations are approaching Puget Sound recovery. Each component listed above will include supporting office work, including phone calls, writing documents and emails, developing outreach materials, and other logistical activities.

Closing Date

This position is Open Until Filled, with the initial review of applications beginning on June 16.

To Apply

Please address the above qualifications AND any applicable experience in the above job responsibilities in your application materials.

Please send a 1) cover letter; 2) resume; and 3) contact information for three references to Cara Ianni at cara.ianni@psp.wa.gov.

About The Puget Sound Partnership

The Puget Sound Partnership is a state agency serving as the backbone organization for Puget Sound recovery. The Partnership coordinates the efforts of citizens, governments, tribes, scientists, businesses and nonprofits to set priorities, implement a regional recovery plan, and ensure accountability for results. The Partnership is also a National Estuary Program (NEP), a designation established by Congress in 1987 to protect estuaries of national significance that are threatened by degradation caused by human activity. Puget Sound was given priority status in the 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act and became one of the original programs of the NEP. Locally, the Partnership also serves as a Regional Recovery Organization to coordinate partners around salmon recovery efforts and convenes a number of other state priority workgroups that impact Puget Sound recovery. See our website for more information: www.psp.wa.gov.